

Christian

VIEW-POINT

DECEMBER 1961



W.M.
STANCHFIELD

for the Southern California

CHRISTIAN CHURCH FAMILY

Christian VIEW-POINT

VOL. 2, NO. 5

CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

DECEMBER 1961

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INTERDENOMINATIONALLY SUPPORT THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND PARTICIPATES THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES IN THE PROGRAMS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST AND THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

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GIVEN TALENT GIVEN AGAIN

Greativity should be encouraged in everyone. It's something which can be lost through neglect," says tall, brown-eyed, Walt Stanchfield, creator of *Deacon's Dilemma*. His entire life reflects this premise.

After graduating from Fremont High in Los Angeles, Walt entered the field of cartooning. He has spent the last thirteen years at Disney Studios as an animation artist and has helped to bring to the screen such happy favorites as, *Cinderella* and *101 Dalmations*.

During lunch hour he rounds out a group of musicians by adding to it the beautiful, haunting music of the Recorder. This unusual flute-like instrument is of old English origin.

Evenings find Walt still working to develop God given talents. One night a week he attends a refresher course in cartooning and another evening is spent with singing lessons. His tenor voice is heard in the choir at Burbank Little White Chapel. He sings for weddings and has taken lead roles in Burbank's Civic Light Opera.

Walt's family, wife Gladys and son Lee, age 11, enthusiastically join him to become week-end painters. The feeling of artistic, original thinking is everywhere. The small studio, the music room and the living room are filled with their oils, sketches and mosaics.

Walt passes along his help in developing creativity in young people by working with a Scout Troop and teaching a S.O.Y.F. class.

No talent lies dormant in this man. If God gave it to him, he digs it out and puts it to work.

Christian VIEW-POINT is fortunate to have Walt Stanchfield a regular contributor to this magazine with his *DEACON'S DILEMMA*, in which he helps the reader better understand many of the "dilemmas" of the local church.

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KEEPING CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

About the Cover

Our cover artist, Walt Stanchfield, is also featured in a biographical sketch on page two.

Mr. Stanchfield included with the cover picture the following inspirational interpretation. May the cover and these meaningful words enrich the Christmas season for each reader.

Most of us have never been to Bethlehem to stand beside Jesus the Christ-child. We are like the shepherd who stands at a distance, not a physical distance, but one in the realm of understanding. We see the bright Christmas Star and hear the soft whispering of the angels who come to us with reassuring words, coaxing us to shorten the distance by fearing not and by believing that this is the Christ, even the love of God born to mankind.

The real Christmas has no fanfare, no crowds, no trumpets --- only a quiet and personal invitation to come and adore Him.

A slogan of recent years, "Putting Christ Back into Christmas," says something special to Christians. It's far more than spelling out "Christ" instead of making an "X".

Why Christmas? Because of God's great love. Expressed long ago in the gift of His Son, that love is more clearly needed in lives squeezed by tensions today than any other single factor. His own love can come into our lives, that's what Christmas says. Yet the fullness of its meaning is lost unless or until each of us carries out acts of God-led by love that show we are keeping Christ in Christmas. Theories about love are unimportant unless they are expressed in actions demonstrating its meaning.

Do you believe the world ever was better poised to receive a demonstration of love than right now? You and I are the ones who can portray its meaning. This better than anyone else; no one else moves in exactly the same pattern or among the same people as does each of us. God is dependent on us, in this great hour, to put Christ in Christmas and with the stem and dynamic disciplines of Christlike love increasingly bring light and life to men.

Not by a vote, but by a prayer - reinforced, deep, inner-decisiveness can the individual Christian and each Christian Church express Christ's purpose, Christmastide and beyond.

James Parrott



Walt Stanchfield



JAMES PARROTT
LUCILE SHAFFER
WINIFRED ADAMS

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DOROTHY MALCOR
IRA WILLIAMS

INSPIRATION POINT

LET US KEEP CHRISTMAS

THOMAS W. TRAVIS, Associate Minister
Hollywood-Beverly Christian Church
Los Angeles, California

"Gee, it's December already!"... "Another Christmas observance to plan and carry out!"... "How shall we celebrate the holidays this year?"... "What can we do for Christmas that will be different?" And so the chorus resounds across the countryside as millions of people prepare for Christmas 1961. Most seem intent upon making this year the biggest and best "observance" or "celebration" yet. At the risk of seeming rude, I would question whether Christmas is really something we "observe" or "celebrate". If we are genuinely anxious to "do something different this year", let us try "keeping" Christmas rather than merely "observing" it.

In a day when the forces of "darkness" once again crowd the world's stage so that the force of "Light" is barely visible within the counsels of men, we must relearn what it means to "keep" Christmas.

It is difficult, perhaps, to recapture something of the experience that led those early Christians to write of shepherds in the field, "*keeping watch over their flocks by night,*" when suddenly, "*an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.*" It is difficult, but essential that we understand something of their awe as they heard, "*a multitude of the heaven-*

ly host praising God and saying,

*'Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among
men with whom he is well
pleased!'*

It is here in these simple words of the Gospel story that we may find the key that will unlock the meaning of Christmas. It is here that we understand something of the powerfully lived experience that caused the early disciples of Jesus to write such a beautiful and moving story. To know Jesus was for them to know God. Those who "keep" Christmas are those who have seen the "Light" shining and moving amidst the present "darkness". To "keep" Christmas is to realize that nothing can ever separate us from the love of God revealed in the life of Jesus Christ. To "keep" Christmas is to discover this force of love in all of life's experiences. This is not something that one "observes" for it is a vital experience one lives. To "keep" Christmas is not so much to observe December 25 as some kind of an anniversary, as it is a time to recommit oneself to the high purposes for which Jesus lived and died. There will always be those who are eager to praise God with their lips. There will always be those who are eager to "observe" a holiday. There will always be those who are eager to proclaim the significance of an event from the past which has never taken hold upon their present life. Genuine praise of God is somehow best brought about when men and women strug-

gle to understand and accomplish His will within the human community. In the "night time" of the world when the forces of "darkness" surround us, the "Light" of God will be made visible to us only as we learn to do that which is "pleasing" in His sight. Should we be impudent enough to inquire just what it is that "is pleasing in His sight," we can only answer by pointing to the man about whom this Christmas story was written in the first place, namely - Jesus.

If we would gain any understanding of the God we worship and praise, we must look at the life of this man, Jesus. Strange and paradoxical as it may seem the power of Christmas is the power that was in the man Jesus who lived and moved in such a way as to bring "Light" into the "darkness" of the world about him and who stands even today as one who is "*the Way, the Truth and the Life.*" You and I claim to be His disciples. His life was a powerful force for good in His own day, instructing men and women in the way they should go, binding up lives that were broken, giving hope to the depressed, feeding those who stood in need and remaining steadfast and obedient to the will of God even unto death.

Let us not merely "observe" another December 25 this year, let us "keep" the Christmas by living the life we have committed ourselves to lead as devoted disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord.

UNIFIED INTERDENOMINATIONAL OUTREACH

ITOR'S NOTE: It is hoped that by bringing to this each month pertinent financial records and interpretations, the reader may better understand different portions of Southern California OUTREACH.)

The current fiscal year (1961-62) is the second year Southern California Christian (Disciples of Christ) strives to participate in an approach toward interdenominational giving in a UNIFIED WAY. This falls into divisions.

Brotherhood Causes

ems included are:

World Council of Churches
National Council of Churches
Southern California Council of Churches

These items together with the congregations' local council or Federation are considered BROTHERHOOD USES.

Non-Brotherhood Causes

These cannot be listed for they are many and most all deserve the support they receive. However, for a congregation to be responsible toward its Brotherhood work, it should examine carefully the past and present trends of giving and acceptances to Non-Brotherhood work and evaluate future plans that will insure that both Brotherhood work and Non-Brotherhood will receive proper support.

Many congregations have a long history of giving to Non-Brotherhood causes and in large amounts. Some give more to a local non-religious cause than for new churches or to religious affiliated causes which also are supported by other religious bodies, this to the sacrifice of Brotherhood work at home and abroad. In the current year some of these agencies are hiring new staff (some just to promote new funds) when Brotherhoodencies are cutting staff and trying at the same time fit new program into old ideas about support.

Past Record

Considering the total giving from Southern California churches to interdenominational work, support has been very minimal. This being the case, some congregations, sensitive at this point, have sacrificed Brotherhood

work to care for great ecumenical need. The total, minimal care plus the sacrifice of Brotherhood work has developed into a haphazard, unsound practice of giving to satisfy personal sentiments rather than responding to real needs.

1960 Area Assembly Suggestions

Area leaders, sensitive to ALL causes, made studies to determine means by which all congregations could best give support. Their suggestion came as a resolution to the 1960 Assembly and was adopted. The resolution follows:

That churches support the interdenominational work with a minimum of 3% of their total outreach funds, with specific percentage distribution of these funds to the various causes in the Interdenominational Asking as follows:

1961-62 Amounts

A. WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

A. World Council of Churches	(10%)	\$3,922
B. National Council of Churches	(15%)	5,883
C. Southern California Council of Churches	(25%)	9,805
D. Local Council of Churches (or Ministerial Assoc., etc.)	(40%)	15,688
E. Other Causes	(10%)	3,922
TOTAL		\$39,220

The above table says that all Southern California Disciple Churches are urged to give as a total to ecumenical work \$39,220 which would be 3% of their aggregate World Outreach expression. LESS than this is not enough to meet the need. MORE than this does injustice to Brotherhood Operating and Capital Causes UNLESS ALL ARE RAISED.

Several Years' Transition

Congregations, with past history of little response to ecumenical work, are trying to raise their level of giving to 3% as suggested. To do this without sacrifice to OPERATING AND CAPITAL causes means raising the total giving. This may be difficult.

Congregations with past history of over-support to

(Continued on page 12)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WORLD OUTREACH

TOTALS FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 1961

UNIFIED OPERATING

TOTAL EEDED	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TO NATIONAL	TO AREA OFFICE	TO CHAPMAN COLLEGE	TO DISCIPLE SEM. FOUNDATION	TO CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN HOME
228,750	\$65,424.30	\$38,751.21	\$11,991.80	\$7,940.29	\$1,125.44	\$5,615.56

1 UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, NAT'L. BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION, BOARD OF CHURCH EXTENSION, PENSION FUND, COUNCIL ON CHRISTIAN UNITY, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION.

UNIFIED CAPITAL

18,200	\$12,588.96	\$1,745.57	\$6,119.75	\$1,947.26	\$345.95	\$1,603.08
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2 HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WORLD-WIDE CAPITAL, NAT'L. NEW CHURCH ADVANCE.

UNIFIED INTERDENOMINATIONAL

TOTAL EEDED	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TO WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES	TO NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES	TO SO. CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
9,810	\$888.00	\$220.64	\$288.91	\$378.45

FAMILY ALBUM



NOTE BURNING AT RIVERSIDE

First Christian Church of Riverside, celebrated the completion of paying its building indebtedness in a note burning ceremony, at a congregational dinner on October 10.

The picture above shows from left to right: Mr. Mona Anderson, treasurer of the Building Fund; Mr. Tom Hodson, chairman of the Board; Mr. Samuel D. McLean, pastor of the Church; and Mr. D. Loyde Miller, chairman of the Building Committee.

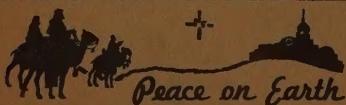
The first unit of the Church's new facilities was built in 1954. A total of \$401,000.00 has been paid for the lot and construction.

* * * * *

600 EXPECTED AT AREA SKATE AREA SKATE

The annual CYF Skate will be held on December 18 at Santa Ana Skate Ranch, 2526 N. Main Street, Santa Ana, from 7:00 - 10:00 P.M. This event is open to all high school persons in our churches. Cost will be \$1.00 admission, including skates, and a \$1.00 offering is suggested by the theme, "as much for others as for ourselves."

Check with your district CYF officers as some districts are assembling for supper and transportation to Santa Ana.



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WIVES

Four women of Southern California were honored by being elected positions in the International Council of Ministers Wives of Disciples of Christ as they met in their annual Convention Breakfast in Kansas City, Missouri on October 3.

Some 675 ministers' wives from United States, Canada, Australia, Nigeria and other parts of the world gathered in the large ballroom of the Continental Hotel. Vocal selections were sung by Martha Holmes Lomire. A soul stirring message was given by Mrs. J. Warren Hastings, formerly of the National City Church.

At the close of the meeting, Mrs. Will Sessions of Kansas City area president for 1960, gave the gavel to the newly elected president, Mr. John O. Hedwall of First Christian Church of Monrovia, California. The other executive officers who were elected are Mrs. Myron Cole of Hollywood-Beverly Christian Church as vice-president; Mrs. Milton Sipp of Torrance as secretary and Mr. Frank Cron of Glendale Central as treasurer.

Mrs. Hedwall extended a cordial invitation to the next meeting which will take place in Los Angeles late September of 1962.

MRS. JESS MOORE

The wife of the Protestant chaplain at Patton State Hospital, passed away unexpectedly in early September. Mrs. Jess Moore and her family had been vacationing in Sequoia when she was stricken and died within a short while.

Chaplain and Mrs. Moore had been in California for nearly 10 years members of the First Christian Church in San Bernardino. Their children are a girl and a boy. Mrs. Moore was well equipped musically and used her fine soprano voice with great generosity, in the church and in the community.

Doctors Willard and Siegried Centerwell, India.

PLEASE NOTE that all of the above couples are not on furlough at the same time. The couple in Southern California now is Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Davis of Congo. You may contact them directly at: 720 N. Carley Avenue, Whittier. Their telephone number is OXFORD 5-1534 or call the Area Office.

"the church has no right to tell people what to do," is the opening line of pastor James Turner's book, *Of Wind and Fire*, sent recently to the members of the Christian Church where he ministers. I am distressed by this view.

Then, among all the babbling voices around us can bring a clear word from God? Did the prophets through the consensus of opinion before they proclaimed the word of the Lord? No, they spoke God's judgment and His command. Did Jesus refrain from telling people what to do? No. "Follow me," he said, leading the way against immorality and injustice, while He instructed them in the ways of Kingdom living.

Did the church refrain from leading the people in the past? Yes, sometimes, as when the German churches acquiesced and were silent after the tragic rule of Hitler (with some notable exceptions). But the Spirit of Christ does not stir in us a concern for doctrine and piety or church government. He moves us with His love with concern for the world. And in this world, where salvation is so badly needed, "If the gospel gives forth an uncertain sound," if the church, the body of Christ, is silent, who will rise to speak?"

* * * * *

ANK YOU

Robert Lee, a member of Central Christian Church in Glendale, generously helped to provide and install separation curtains in the Board Room at the Office. By this means, three groups may use the large room for conferences when necessary.

* * * * *

ERRY HILLS IN TUCSON

"As the Son magnifies the Father, so does the Father magnify the Son," are the words of the chairman of the Committee on the Minister of invitation of the Broadway Christian Church in Tucson, Arizona. Harry J. Hill, the father, responded to Broadway's invitation to become associate minister to Homer Hill, son. This will continue through the winter months when the Broadway church is dedicating its new sanctuary. The senior Hills may be reached at 4257 Texas Circle, Tucson, Arizona.

LEADERS FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Dr. Leslie Smith, right with Mrs. Smith and Dr. Perry E. Gresham are shown when Dr. Smith became the president of the 1962 International Convention in Kansas City. Later he received the gavel from Dr. Gresham, the retiring president for the 1961 Convention.

The new president is the minister of the First Christian Church in Lexington, Kentucky, having served earlier in Southern California at the East Side Christian Church in Long Beach.

Southern California hosts the International Convention beginning Sunday, September 30, 1962 and continuing through Thursday, October 4. The Program Committee is chaired by Dr. Virgil Sly, having been appointed by Dr. Smith, whose committee looks forward to an opening service at Hollywood Bowl on Sunday afternoon with the remaining meetings being held at the Shrine Auditorium from Monday morning.

Other Convention Officers

Those who will serve along with President Leslie Smith are Mrs. Anderson Barnes, member of the McCarty Memorial Christian Church in Los Angeles, elected first vice-president. Two other vice-presidents are Eugene E. Andereck of Trenton, Missouri, an attorney; and Dr. J. Wayne Drash, minister of the Bear Lake Christian Church, St. Petersburg, Florida. The treasurer of the Convention is Thomas L. Jennings of the Walnut Hills Christian Church in Cincinnati, Ohio. Miss Gertrude Dimke of Indianapolis was re-elected

recording secretary. Dr. Ben C. Bobbitt, the Executive Secretary of the Christian Churches of Northern California is the parliamentarian.

A First Opportunity

Many Southern California Christian Church members have not had opportunity to share in an International Convention until this one. Each congregation will want to bear in mind that there is an Area Assembly earlier than usual, May 24, 25, and 26 in San Diego as well as the early October International meeting. Church programming for 1961-62 as well as 1962-63 will be to keep these two dates in mind.

There is large responsibility for Southern Californians along with their opportunity. Attendance at the sessions will be highly desirable and individuals will want to plan their schedules, even this early, to be able to attend. Those who have attended similar conventions will want to encourage others who have not attended to be in the 1962 meets.

A far larger number of registrations for the International Convention will be sought from Southern California churchmen than are received in most years. A State or Area accepts the larger obligation, wherever the Convention is, in order to help meet the total cost of the assembly.

The 1962 Convention will be able to review the first two years in a Brotherhood-wide Program of Advance. Christian faith and the current world picture will confront one another to call out of all churchmen their highest response.

CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN HOME IN

AS INTERVIEWED



MRS. BERTHA WESTER

Mrs. Bertha McKay Wester is well known to many of our readers in Southern California. I said to her: "Mrs. Wester, please tell us about your service before and after entering California Christian Home." "I joined the faculty of Chapman College in 1927 when it was still called California Christian College, and remained as an instructor in the speech department for fifteen years. When I came to the Home, I was delighted to serve in the field in which I considered myself to be most proficient. With the aid of other guests, I was made responsible for the preparation and presentation of programs when we went out to visit the churches. This has filled my time with a worthwhile activity.

YOUNG IN HEART

Mrs. Ella B. Sexton is a small and active appearing woman whose 94 years have been kept well concealed. We asked her, "How do you manage to keep so young?" "I don't think I really look so young," she replied, "but I do feel young! In my opinion it is necessary for a person to keep occupied. When I came to the Home I was given charge of the communion preparation

for our Sunday services. Also, I have always arranged, or helped arrange the flowers for the chapel. My chief interest, however, is in books and I have sorted the ones which were given to the Home, catalogued them, and acted as librarian. We have a lot of books and our people read a great deal."

"I am not the oldest woman in the Home", she continued, "but only one person has lived here longer than I have. It will soon be nineteen years since I came to the Home." As she walked from the room I was still marveling at the extent of her vigor and her remarkable personality.

BUSY DISCIPLE

Miss Laura Griffin has been a Disciple for about seventy years. "What did you do before coming to live here," we inquired. "The most interesting years of my life were spent working with boys and girls," she said. "First I was employed at the Pacific Boys Home, and I went camping with the boys on six different occasions. Then, I was at Mrs. Pepperdine's Home for Teen-age Girls. These girls were from broken or



MRS. MARGARET KENNEDY



MRS. EMMA GAREY

distressed homes and they ed a great deal of lov understanding. I became attached to them and I sti from about thirty of them."

INDIA MISSIONARY

"Miss Ford," I said, ading myself to Miss Lucile who was a missionary in for over forty years, "What be your message to the ch at the coming Christma son?" "Put Christ back Christmas by telling the C mas story to little childr by making it live for every

was her immediate work. When we asked her abo work in India she told worked with the women children, especially with ones; and I served as a in some of the many vil On my last trip I stay eleven years because war."

"Perhaps you did not that before I went to India employed for seven year the St. Louis Children's That was because the who examined me for mi ary service thought I wa

NEWS

H. HEMPSTEAD, Pastor First Christian Church, Alhambra



N
H. MYERS

enough to go to India." I have always been a busy person and I remain busy here at the Home, working outdoors in the flowers, reading each to others and for my own benefit."

NEW COMERS

Three new people had just joined the Home a few days

No concern of the church more completely expresses the spirit of Christ than the program of benevolence which is carried on through our National Benevolent Association. This has long been my conviction, a conviction which has been intensified, first, by being privileged to serve six years on the Board of Trustees of the Association, and second, by a similar span of service as pastor of the church which is considered the "home church" for guests in the California Christian Home.

Our congregation gladly supports the work of benevolence through direct contributions from the outreach budget, plus providing transportation and other courtesies for those who live in our Home in Rosemead. Actually, however, we are the recipients in a far deeper sense than they. These senior members contribute greatly to the life of our congregation by their presence, their prayers, and their wealth of experience in the church.

"HOME CHURCH" PASTOR SPEAKS

before I visited there to obtain this story. Mrs. Winifred C. Meyers came from the University Christian Church, San Diego. She told us that she had been in the hospital with a serious illness for two weeks shortly before coming here. Mrs. Emma Garey says she has made so many new friends that she could not count them. She came from Oceanside and has adjusted, she feels, to congregate living at her new home. Reverend Gifford Gordon, who came from the Pomona Church, had this to say: "I was born in Australia and came to America to study at the College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky, in 1905. Following my graduation there, I returned to Australia for fifteen years of preaching to the churches of that land. Then I came back to America and the rest of my ministry, including several years of work with high school boys and girls, has been in this nation. I count it a matter of good fortune to be able to come to California Christian Home."

EXPRESSION OF LOVE

We count it among our richest privileges to number them among our church family. Many of them hold regular membership with us, while others are an integral part of our church life although they retain membership in the congregation from which they entered the California Christian Home. In both instances, we join hands with you--in attempting to provide worship services, church activities and pastoral care for those in their sunset years.

Your special offerings at Christmas make possible the splendid facilities and loving care which they have at Rosemead. We readily join with you in expressing the spirit of Christ through supporting an adequate program of benevolence.

JAMES K. HEMPSTEAD, PASTOR
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA



FILLING SCHOOL BAGS FOR LATIN AMERICA

L. TO R.-MRS. ORA BOYD, MRS. LEITA HARVUO, MISS LAURA GRIFFIN

J. EDGAR HOOVER WRITES ON THE MINISTRY

Veteran director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, John Edgar Hoover, recently discussed the Communist challenge and hailed the work of the Christian ministry in an article that appeared in *World Call* for 1961 as well as in the *Baptist Crusader*. He writes,

"To my mind, more than ever, we need as a nation a strengthening of our religious faith. If we have men and women, articulate in their Christian heritage, they can meet and overcome the temptations of the Communist challenge.

Hence, the great challenge which faces ministers of the gospel. In reality they stand on the front line today in the fight against communism. The type of men and women we produce in America today, in large measure, is their responsibility. They have the duty of guiding young lives, helping produce alert, progressive, meaningful citizens. Nothing today can be more important than our Sunday Schools, youth training programs, church camps and study groups. These are truly arsenals of democracy.

"Joseph Addison has said: 'What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the soul'. Here is our answer. America's clergy are today doing a magnificent job. They are helping to preserve the dignity of man as the image of God, and to mold the individual to be a worthy citizen in democracy. Over the years, as can be expected, churches and religious organizations have been — and will so remain — targets for Communistic infiltration. In the past some clergymen, unfortunately, have been drawn into the Communist movement. But the overwhelming majority of our clergymen are today wholly loyal to our nation and are working valiantly to protect our freedoms.

"This is not the time for name-calling, for unfounded accusations or publicity-seeking charges designed to confuse, divide and weaken. The clergy of America need the full support of patriotic Americans in our common struggle against the enemy."

* * * * *

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

LUKE 2:14



Photo by
Russell Dietrick, Vista Press.

STRETCHING (YOUNG) CHRISTIAN ARMS

At the center of the picture is Paul Grigsby and several friends in the Vacation Church School at First Christian, Vista. "Sheila", the goat, is one of seven being raised by Paul to be sent over-seas to provide milk for a family. This is one expression of a multitude of ways that the Christian's arms reach out and bring strength to persons in other parts of the world.

* * * * *

CONFERENCE GROUNDS REMINDERS

Planning retreats can bring inspiration and spiritual depth to the program of your church. Loch Leven has open dates for such retreats during March, April and May. Make your reservations early.

Families are invited to use the new cabin at Loch Leven when there are open dates. It will be a real treat for Mother and the rest of the family to share the excellent food, the quietness and beauty of your Conference Grounds. Check with Ralph McConnell, the manager, for rates and reservations.

With many helping hands, and the financial help of the CMF, Bethany Pines now has water and electricity. Information regarding the use of these grounds may be had at the Area Office.

Campbell Lodge at Loch Leven has taken on a new look since the installation of carpeting in the living room. Operation Tug-a-Rug, a project by the Business and Professional Women, made this possible.

YOUTH CHOIR CAMP

A Choir Camp for youth from the 8th to 12th grades will be held at Loch Leven, December 26-30. There will also be special classes for interested adults and they will benefit by being observers.

Gregg Smith, the famous conductor of the "Gregg Smith Singers", will be the keynote instructor and choir director. He is professor of music at U.C.L.A. and also, Minister of Music for the West Los Angeles Japanese Methodist Church. He has a very fine a cappella choir in this church, and his professional recording choir toured Europe this past summer.

Worship and fellowship will be the highlight of the Camp. Some emphasis will be given to class work on subjects such as: Problems and Psychology of Leadership, Recruiting and Selecting Personnel, Rehearsal Techniques and Procedures, Repertoires and Selection of Music, and Programming. The greater emphasis will be in choir rehearsals. A big attraction will be the mass a cappella choir concert on the last morning of the Camp.

The total cost of the Camp will be \$18.00 for youth and \$21.00 for adults. Applications have been sent to all ministers and registrations may be sent with full fee to the Area Office, 3126 Los Feliz Boulevard, Los Angeles 39, California.

This Choir Camp is initiated by John Young and the First Christian Church of Santa Monica, and is endorsed by the Youth Commission of Area Department of Christian Education.

* * * * *

C.M.F. PRESIDENT'S RETREAT

The C.M.F. President's Retreat will be held at Loch Leven on December 16 and 17.

Each C.M.F. is asked to send both the president and vice-president to the Retreat. Churches which do not have chartered Fellowships are asked to send two men who will be interested in working with the laymen in the local church.

During the Retreat, each man will look at C.M.F. and its program in relationship to the total church program, seek ways to adjust leadership and personal attitudes and to encourage men to experience a closer relationship to God. By giving leadership by example, commitment without reservation, and dedication with sincerity, the C.M.F. program can give power to the program of the church.

Information about reservations has been sent to each church.

ORDAINING IN IOWA

A service of ordination to the Christian ministry by the Christian Churches of Iowa, of Claude J. Wood, was held October 8, 1961, in the First Christian Church, Hedrick, Iowa.

Mr. Wood attended Chapman College while serving First Christian Church, Fullerton, as Minister of Christian Education. His seminary work was completed this past summer at Drake Divinity School. His home congregation of Pacific Beach Christian Church, San Diego, pastored by Dan Griffith, licensed Claude during his student ministries, and assisted him with his tuition.

Harold Horn, layman of Fullerton, presented the Pacific Beach congregation in the service of ordination and earlier had presented a tape recorder to Mr. Wood from the Pacific Beach Church.

The candidate for ordination was presented by Donald H. Gill, chairman of the Iowa Committee on the Ministry to Dr. Loren E. Lair, Executive Secretary of the Iowa Christian Churches. Dr. Charles B. Tupper, professor of Applied Christianity, (retired) from Drake Divinity School, preached the sermon.

Reverend Wood and his wife and family, have begun their ministry on full time basis with the Hedrick congregation after serving them on part time basis during seminary.

* * * * *

SEMINARIANS

Three Southern Californians have enrolled for the Fall quarter of graduate study at The College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky.

Edwin C. Linberg, Pasadena, who received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from the seminary in June, is working for the Master of Theology degree. He is associate pastor of the First Christian Church, Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

Kenneth W. Scovill, Alhambra and Robert E. McPeek, Los Angeles, are beginning their second year of study. Scovill is the minister of the Clemansville Christian Church, Perry, Kentucky. McPeek is associate pastor at Arlington Christian Church, Lexington.

Linberg and McPeek are graduates of Transylvania College, Lexington. Scovill holds degrees from Pasadena City College and Los Angeles State College.

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IVE...VIEW-POINT TO A SHUT-IN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Christian VIEW-POINT wishes to acknowledge that UNION TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, P. O. Box 1150, San Diego 12, California, was the contributor of the very fine aerial photograph of the city of San Diego, which was used on the cover of the November issue of this magazine.

This information was not available at production time of the November VIEW-POINT, so the picture is repeated above and our sincere appreciation is extended to this firm.

* * * * *

MINISTERS AND WIVES MEET

On December 12, at the Southern California School of Theology, Claremont, California, the Southern California Ministerial Association and the Ministers' Wives Association will meet.

During the program, addresses will be given by Dr. Ernest Colwell, president of the School; Dr. Tom Trotter, professor at the School, and Mr. Walter D. Cardwell, Department of Resources of The United Christian Missionary and former missionary to Africa.

The meeting begins with a coffee hour at 9:30 A.M. and the program begins at 10:00 A.M. followed by a luncheon at noon. A child care program is available.

Mr. Samuel D. McLean, Riverside, is the president of the Ministerial Association and Mrs. Harry Nissen, Glendora, is the president of the Ministers' Wives Association.

* * * * *

CHURCHMANSHIP INSTITUTE

"The Nature of the Church" and the "Role of the Laity" was the dual theme of a four night Churchmanship Institute of the San Gabriel Valley District, held at the First Christian Church, El Monte, September 18, 19, 25, and 26.

In other years, Institutes for functional training have been limited to one night. The purpose of this Institute was to test the value of more extended study in the field of churchmanship.

Fifteen churches participated in the study of the following functional areas of the church: Christian Education, Stewardship, Property, Worship, Evangelism, World Outreach, Membership Development, Christian Action, and a section for Board Chairmen and Trustees. Each study included: theology and history, use of Program Planning Manuals, group dynamics and how to involve people, tasks of the department, and ideas in carrying out the functions of the department or tasks.

Leaders for the Institute were chosen from ministers and laymen of the district and personnel from the Area Office staff. Each section had a leader and a resource person present.

A registration fee of each church participating was required to take care of expenses incurred, such as filmstrips and mimeographed materials. A display of literature was made available by the Bethany Bookstore.

* * * * *

BELLFLOWER-The CYF at First Christian Church offers free baby sitting to anyone who is going to a church function and needs a baby sitter. These young people are eager to baby sit so that others may have their opportunity of serving Christ. Perhaps Pam Goossen, service chairman, would want VIEW-POINT to note this pertains to membership of the Bellflower Church only! -- Or does it?

MAKE YOUR FUNDS EARN 6% THIS NEXT YEAR

churchman's foundation

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FOR SALE

- 1 IBM Electric Executive Typewriter, office condition, 20" carriage. PRICE \$300.00.
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PRICE \$200.00

These are good typewriters. We wish to standardize our secretarial pool so that each will be using the same equipment. So, the need to sell the above.

Please call NOrmandy 5-5126, Christian Churches Area Office, 3126 Los Feliz Boulevard.

UNITED CHRISTIAN CHURCH

In a day when despite repeated pleas for unity there is disagreement and division within the Church and the churches, the accomplishment of the new United Christian Church in Los Angeles deserves special attention.

Many months ago the congregations of the East 28th Street Christian Church and the Avalon Christian Church began exploring the possibility of a merger. The leaders involved as many persons in positions of responsibility in the community and the Brotherhood as might help them in finding their way. Although this great wisdom was displayed, a part of that wisdom was reflected in a steady movement on the total objective. The exchange of the points of view was general, understandings were reached, and commitments were made.

Location was a matter of great importance. The study of these two congregation's led them to the use, for the present, of the Avalon facilities with plans to sell the East 28th Street property. At the same time, the United Church is aware that there is more than one point of great need for another Christian Church in the huge Negro population in Los Angeles.

These explorations and commitments were brought to a meaningful climax in the service of installation at the United Christian Church on Sunday, October 8, when pastor Enoch Henry, Jr., was installed as the leader of the new church. The service was well attended by members of the congregation plus a great many representatives from the community and other churches over the Southland.

UNIFIED INTERDENOMINATIONAL OUTREACH

(Continued from page 5)

ecumenical work are likewise trying to bring into balance their total response. Some of these have given as much as 35% to ecumenicity. This too is a difficult transition.

Significant strides are being made by most, as a balance is sought. Somewhere between 3% and 5% would seem to be a long range goal, whether up or down.

1961-62 Acceptances

To date 81 congregations have indicated support to various causes, none of which are Brotherhood OPERATING OR CAPITAL, in the amount of \$66,822. These same churches indicate \$125,435 will be given to Brotherhood Capital Causes. It is quite easily seen that genuine effort needs to be made toward new balances when the Interdenominational Asking was for \$39,220 and the Capital Asking was for \$352,990.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP is continually sought by congregations for the individual. The corporate body also should listen to its own preaching. This is the decade for decisions to be made most of which need to be worked at consistently and constantly or larger unbalance develops.

* * * *

LAYMAN'S SUNDAY

Members of the Area C.M.F. Executive were busy on Laymen's Sunday, October 15, speaking in churches in several districts. This service was complimented by many laymen in local churches participating in their morning worship on that day.

This observance in our Brotherhood was also carried out in thirty-two other denominations in over 100,000 churches in the United States and Canada. The theme presented this year was, "You Shall Be My Witnesses". The message heralded from many pulpits was: witnessing geographically, spiritually, occupationally and socially.

* * * *

RIALTO-A model of a new building to be erected on the new site has been set before the congregation of First Christian Church here. By this visual means the congregation was acquainted with the plans on which their approval was requested so they might proceed in next steps of the new building.



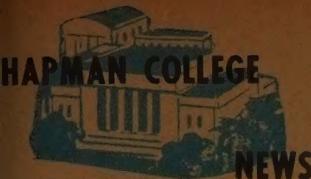
TEMPLE CITY-George Elder, the founding minister of the Temple City Christian Church, loved music so much that it was only natural for members and friends in the community to give memorial gifts at his death for a very beautiful set of chimes. These were dedicated September 21 in connection with Christian Education Week with the pastor Dennis Savage, preaching on "Escalator Religion".

SANTA ANA-The Chi Rho Fellowship at First Christian Church has packaged and mailed the seeds that the pupils of the Vacation Church School collected, carried out under "Seeds for Africa" plan. This is valuable help on the field and illustrates the multitude of ways in which Christian mission expresses itself. A bit of imagination helps every church find new ways of serving the Lord.

SANTA BARBARA-After many years of hoping, First Christian Church has purchased the land at the corner of Chapala and Pedregosa. This acquisition will fill out to a full rectangle a property which had the cornerer out of it with the parsonage facing on one street and the church building on the other and this newly acquired ground and buildings bordering the corner itself. The buildings contain four apartments, all rented, and the income will apply to the mortgage and maintenance of the property.

REDLANDS-State Street Christian Church consulted, in late October, William Pearcy, the president of the Board of Church Extension, concerning plans for a projected new church according to the pastor, Donald Woodley.

WHITTIER-With the observance of the Week of the Ministry, a high point was reached when two young people in First Christian Church made their commitment to full time Christian service: Cheryle Craig and Jean Culbertson, writes pastor Dr. Dallas Gladson in the *Pastor's Column*.



ECHOES FROM EDEN

It seems to me that one of the basic problems of the church today is that it is filled with too many people who are fairly confident of their own goodness. In fact a lot of them seem to be so sure of their own standing with God, that they even try to get Him in line with their own desires. Fundamentally it is a question of simple honesty. Most of us do not want to see God as He really is (in His holiness and righteousness) and see ourselves as we really are (in our emptiness and self-righteousness). I wonder if there is anyone reading this who, in the last twenty-four hours, hasn't in some fashion prayed to himself, "Thank God, I am not as other people are."

It is strange indeed, how often we think of ourselves as superior people. We are not unlike the wealthy man given an honorary degree by a certain college in hopes that the institution might benefit from his sizable accumulation. In his "build-up", the president referred to the rich man as being "a very, very, great, great man." Later as he and his wife strolled about the campus, the man reflected audibly to his wife, "I wonder how many very, very, great, great men there are?" To which she replied, "I am sure there is one less than you think."

When the heart of the Gospel really hits us, it quickly pricks our inflated bubbles of pride. We know in fact that God is the Creator, the Sustainer and the Judge. That which we have and

COMING EVENTS

- Dec. 1-3 Christian Vocations Conf.
- Dec. 3 Woman's Day
- Dec. 4 CWF Executive
- Dec. 4-6 Camp and Conf. Directors
Loch Leven
- Dec. 8 Christian Action Dept.
- Dec. 9 CMF Executive
- Dec. 9 BPW Executive
- Dec. 10 Universal Bible Sunday
- Dec. 11 Y.P. Commission and
Public Relations Dept.
- Dec. 12 Ministers and Wives Meet.
- Dec. 13 Resources Department
- Dec. 14 Business and Finance
- Dec. 14 Dept. of the Ministry
- Dec. 16, 17 CMF President's Conf.
Loch Leven
- Dec. 18 CYF State Skate
- Dec. 18 Executive of Board of
Directors
- Dec. 24 Christmas Sunday
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day
- Dec. 26-31 U.C.C.F. Conference
- Dec. 28 Area Assembly Exec. &
Program Committee
- Dec. 29 SOY Party
- Dec. 31 Student Recognition Sun.

* * * * *

that which we are is not really the product of our own procreation. Everything belongs to God. We live only by His grace. Thus, there is no room for boasting amongst Christians. The church is not a community to the righteous. Long before it is the communion of saints; it is the communion of sinners . . . forgiven sinners.

You see, 20th century friends, this is where Eve and I made our mistake. Inflated with our own ego, we desired "to be like God." And don't forget what happened. It could happen to you.

Yours,
ADAM

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Christian VIEW -POINT

Enclosed find \$1.00 for one year subscription to the Christian VIEW-POINT, beginning with the month of.....

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NBA Christmas is a Time to Express Your Benevolent Concerns

Christ served the sick, the aged, the little children. His business was to establish the Church and commissioned it to minister to people. Just as Jesus had compassion on the poor, the sick, the blind, the mentally disturbed, the neglected and rejected, so the Church has tried to follow His example.

Since 1887, The National Benevolent Association of the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ), has been the instrument by which an organized and orderly program of Benevolence has been administered. This year 1,148 children, who were abandoned, neglected, or unwanted, found security and love in 7 NBA Homes for children in Atlanta, Cleveland, Denver, Dallas, Omaha, St. Louis and Somerset, Pennsylvania. 20 were full orphans and 53 were half orphans. 845 aging members of the Christian Churches, who were lonely, unwanted, or without sufficient funds, found comfort and Christian companionship in the 10 NBA Homes for aging in Dallas; De Moines; Martinsville and Marion, Indiana; Jacksonville, Florida; Jacksonville, Illinois; Beaverton, Oregon; Rosemead, California; Edmond, Oklahoma; and Columbia, Missouri. This Christmas a new Family Circle will be added through the Kansas Christian Home at Newton to receive the Churches' daily blessings. Of the 845 aging in the NBA Homes, 19 are blind, 86 are past 90, and 401 are past 80 years. 27 are ministers, 52 are ministers' wives or widows, and 16 are missionaries. 235 have no income whatsoever. More than 40,122 years of church membership are represented by these 845 senior citizens residing in the 10 NBA Homes. (No service report available from the new Kansas Home). They depend upon the churches for all necessities. The benevolent outreach of our NBA Homes is limited only by the amount of support which members of our concerned churches regularly provide. Our Benevolence Dollars are a part of your World Outreach Dollars. Our NBA Homes operate to capacity. They referred 785 children and 931 elderly people to other agencies for help. There are 499 approved aged people on the NBA Homes' waiting lists. During the year, 68 unwed mothers were helped.

The NBA Family Circle of over 2,000 would have you know of their happiness, and deep gratitude as Churches plan to observe the "Christmas Offering for Benevolence" on December 24, 1961. Free materials have been prepared for churches to promote a generous Christmas offering, which is the Special Day for Benevolence in the Brotherhood calendar.

Your material gifts should be sent direct to the NBA Homes. Your cash offerings should be sent to the Homes, or to The National Benevolent Association, 16th Floor, Landreth Building, St. Louis 2, Missouri. It makes no difference. Each Home receives its budget share of the total Benevolence receipts.

Thanks for keeping these NBA Home doors open. Who knows but what some day they may swing open to you, or your loved ones, in an hour of great need. Happiness adds and multiplies as we divide it with others.

The NBA Homes Depend Upon You

BOOK REVIEW

Jesus and His Story

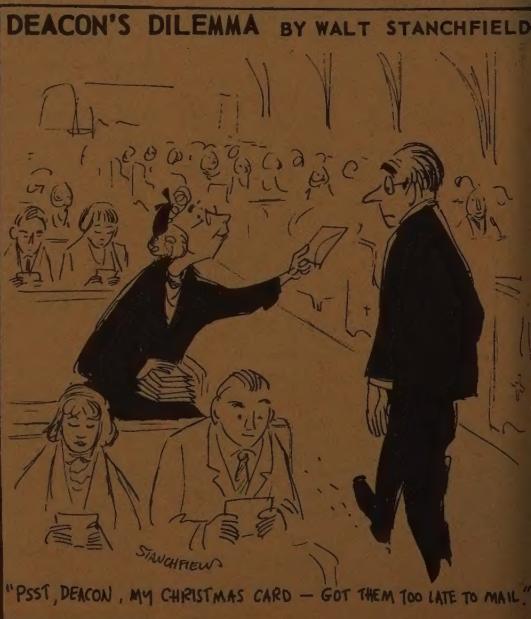
by Ethelbert Stauffer

It was the beginning of the "political Twilight of Antiquity," the end of the age was nearing, and the world was a center of chaos when Jesus entered. This book traces the life of Jesus, year by year, sorting out entwined truth and fiction from ancient sources as well as newly-found scrolls that "cast a welcome on Gospel accounts." The scholarly author admits that the "historical viewpoint paints a tragic picture of the dogmatic bias Jesus experienced in the spiritual pride of early Israel. Jewish leaders viewed Jesus as a threat to their attitude of exclusivism!" Critics claimed that he "practiced magic and led Israel astray with Demon-inspired miracles." Jesus, however, went right ahead loving everyone with the love of God who "chose, rejected, and pardoned Israel.

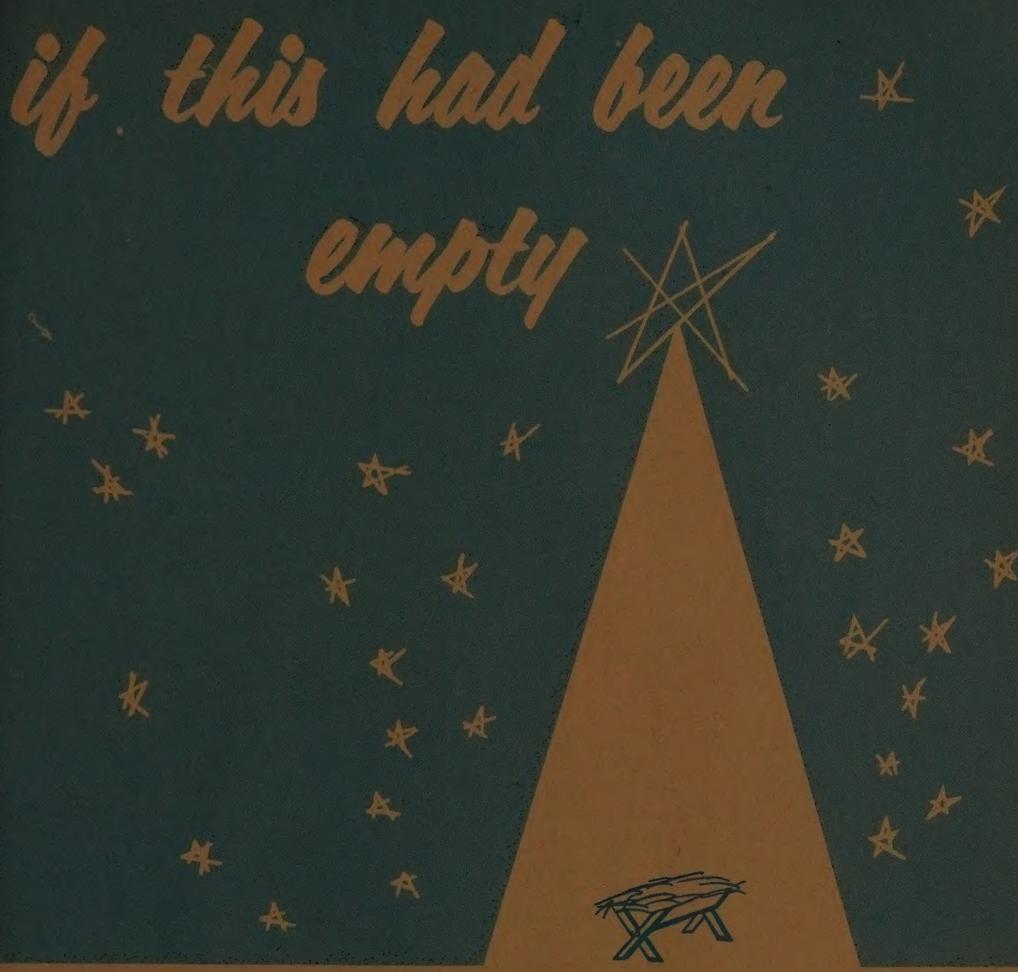
"Jesus was deeply concerned with their troubled time in the present, not the future, was the decisive element in His message." The author adds: "This today has been the goal of all history since the beginning of time for the practical pattern of tomorrow's action is in today's decision." Jesus taught: "The Kingdom of God is within you!" Then they crucified Him. But He refused to stay dead! He rose to live forever, tracing the "Golden Strand of Divine Purpose through all worlds and all times." Jesus, the human life of God, coming down to man's understanding, was "more human than any other man in the wide expanse of history." In our Age of Anxiety, we need to read *Jesus and His Story*.

REVIEWED BY:

MAUDE M. SOREY, LAYWOMAN
HOLLYWOOD-BEVERLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



"PSST, DEACON, MY CHRISTMAS CARD - GOT THEM TOO LATE TO MAIL."



men would be chained still. At this joyous season we celebrate the birth of Him who cast aside forever the chains and set men eternally free.

*May the blessings of Christmas remain
with you throughout the year*

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book of the Month at Bethany Book-
store for December . . .

"Jesus and His Story," by Ethelbert
Waffer. See review, this issue of VIEW
POINT

Way Out on a Limb

I'm glad I have a limb...
'Cause it's Christmas shopping
time again...
Can't quite get used to
-Seeing nice old ladies
Driving Cadillacs into the depart-
ment store front door...
-Mothers with bloodshot eyes
Going two falls out of three
For a bargain buy
On a scratched tricycle, and
-Teeners anxiously bidding
Up their folks from the
Decided upon transistor
To a fullblown, mahogany
Cabinetted stereo, with matching
speaker...

People rushing to and fro
Knocking one another into obli-
vion...
Clerks muttering *Merry Christmas*
In much the same tone
That's used when the dog
Chewed up a favorite slipper.

Flash and tinsel and funny
dillybobs,
Trees, and kind-of trees,
And hardly trees at all.
Parties and stockings
And candy by the gallon-
Sweet stuff, sour stuff, drinking
stuff-
Pretty stuff, wrapping stuff,
expensive stuff-
And crazy decorations...
On and on-
'Till I'm glad I'm on a limb
In a nice safe place above it all.

Where a sky full of stars
Can still be seen.
And on quiet nights there's
The faintest hint of an
Angel voice with
Peace on earth, Good will
toward men.
Where the plaintive cry of a
Hungry child can still be heard,
And a soul can think of
Thankfulness for the gift of one
Who came and showed in life
supreme
Who God is, and how men should
live.

But then, you don't have a limb...
You have to walk with crowds
And those who walk with crowds.
You don't have time for this
kind of dribble...

Or do you?
Hoping so.

ZACH

PROF. J. H. WALKER,
1709 SACRAMENTO ST.,
BERKELEY, CALIF.
VP

HOW CAN I KNOW BEFORE MY MARRIAGE IS IN DANGER?

**LEWIS R. ELOE, Director,
Northridge Family
Counseling Center**

begin to re-evaluate and reconstruct your interests.

5. Is there a reduction of affection? Don't fool yourself by 'assuming' or 'being adult' about each other. Be in love and show it!

Of course, one does not always feel the same about the other person. Feelings do change from time to time. However, do not allow your feelings to build up or to change in a destructive way. In a secure marriage, the love one has for the other will deepen through the years and continue to grow forever.

'What can I do to strengthen my marriage', is a question most people can answer before it is asked. We start with ourselves and check over our attitudes and our actions.

Here are some suggestions which may stimulate your thinking.

1. Give up the hurts and disappointments you may be holding. They are doing you no good.

2. Allow your partner to be close to you. Why hold each other away? Are you afraid of being hurt?

3. Accept your own and other people's liabilities. Don't try to change each other. Marriage is not a reform school.

4. Try to resolve irritations once and 'don't let the sun go down on your anger'.

5. Endeavor to succeed in your marriage as you would succeed in anything else.

When danger signs appear along the way, take notice. It doesn't mean your marriage is ending. It is only asking for help. In these times of need, give each other your very best. And resolve to make a possible threat, strengthen and deepen your love and marriage.